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(54) Title: EB1 GENE PRODUCT BINDS TO APC

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**(57) Abstract**

Inactivation of the APC tumor suppressor gene plays an important role in the development of both sporadic and familial forms of colorectal cancers. The majority of these mutations result in the loss of the carboxyl terminus of the APC protein. A cellular protein, EB1, that associates with the carboxyl terminus of APC both *in vitro* and *in vivo* has been identified. The EB1 gene is predicted to encode a 268 amino acid protein without significant homology to any protein with known function.

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### ***EB1* GENE PRODUCT BINDS TO APC**

This invention was made with support from the National Institutes of Health, Grant No. CA57345. The U.S. government therefore retains certain rights in the invention.

#### **BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

The *APC* gene (adenomatous polyposis coli) was originally isolated by virtue of its alteration in familial and sporadic forms of colorectal cancer (1-4). Germline mutations of the *APC* gene account for most cases of familial adenomatous polyposis (FAP), an autosomal, dominantly inherited disease that predisposes patients to multiple colorectal polyps and cancer (reviewed in 5). *APC* mutations have also been found in cancers of the central nervous system. While FAP patients with germline mutations of *APC* account for less than 1% of colorectal cancers in the United States, somatic mutations of *APC* occur in the majority of colorectal adenomas and cancers (6-9). These alterations appear to occur early as they can be identified in the smallest identifiable lesions including dysplastic aberrant crypt foci (6,10,11). The vast majority of both germline and somatic *APC* mutations are predicted to result in truncation of the *APC* protein due to either nonsense or frame-shifting mutations (5,6,7,8,9). Likewise, mice carrying homologous germline truncating mutations of *APC* are also predisposed to intestinal tumors (8, 9, 10). Altogether, these results strongly suggest that *APC* mutations are an early if not initiating event in the development of both sporadic and inherited forms of colorectal cancer.

While disruption of normal *APC* function clearly plays a role in colorectal tumorigenesis, what this function might be remains unclear. The *APC* gene is

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predicted to encode a protein of 2843 amino acids with limited functional homology to known proteins. The primary structure contains several Armadillo repeats that are shared by proteins with apparently diverse functions (3, 15) as well as several regions of heptad repeats of the type that mediate oligomerization via coiled-coil structures (3). Indeed, the amino terminus of APC, which has a very strong potential for forming coiled-coil structures, has been shown to mediate the homo-oligomerization of APC protein (16, 17). Three additional repeats located between amino acids 1000 and 1200 of APC mediate an association with  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  - catenins, critical cytoplasmic components of cadherin cell adhesion (18, 19). In addition, wild-type but not mutant forms of APC have been shown to associate with microtubule cytoskeleton (20, 21).

While the aforementioned biochemical characteristics of APC provide important clues to its function, other functions remain undefined. Because mutant APC proteins almost uniformly lack their carboxyl terminus, we hypothesized that the carboxyl terminus of APC interacts with proteins that are essential for its normal function. To test this hypothesis we attempted to identify a protein that associates with the carboxyl terminus of APC.

#### **SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

It is an object of the invention to provide a nucleic acid molecule encoding a protein which binds to APC.

It is an object of the invention to provide a protein molecule which binds to APC.

It is another object of the invention to provide nucleic acid molecules which can be used to detect genes involved in neoplasia in a sample.

It is yet another object of the invention to provide methods for determining a predisposition to colorectal and other neoplasms.

It is still another object of the invention to provide antibodies useful for detecting proteins which bind to APC.

It is an object of the invention to provide methods for assessing susceptibility to colorectal and other cancer.

It is an object of the invention to provide methods for diagnosing cancer.

It is still another object of the invention to provide methods to assess treatment options for a cancer.

It is yet another object of the invention to provide methods to assess the status of *APC* alleles in a cell.

These and other objects of the invention are provided by one or more of the embodiments described below. In one embodiment of the invention a nucleic acid molecule is provided which comprises an *EB1* DNA according to SEQ ID NO:1. Also provided is a molecule which may contain at least 12, 18, or 20 contiguous nucleotides of *EB1* coding sequence. Also provided is a molecule which encodes at least about 6, 8, 10, or 20 contiguous *EB1* amino acids.

In another embodiment of the invention an isolated and purified *EB1* protein is provided. The protein has an amino acid sequence according to SEQ ID NO:2. Polypeptides having at least 6, 8, 10, or 20 contiguous amino acids of said sequence are also provided.

In still another embodiment of the invention a method for determining a predisposition to or a diagnosis of colorectal and other neoplasms is provided. The method comprises the step of: determining one or more mutations in one or more *EB1* alleles of a human tissue, wherein wild-type *EB1* is as shown in SEQ ID NO:1.

In one embodiment of the invention a method for determining a predisposition to or diagnosis of colorectal and other neoplasms is provided. The method comprises the step of: assaying protein complexes in a cell, wherein said protein complexes comprise *APC* and *EB1*, wherein absence of said complexes or reduction in level of said complexes indicates a predisposition to neoplasms.

In another embodiment of the invention an antibody preparation is provided. The antibody is specifically immunoreactive with an *EB1* protein according to SEQ ID NO:2.

According to still another aspect of the invention a method for determining a diagnosis or predisposition to cancer is provided. The method comprises the

step f: testing a human tissue to determine if the tissue expresses less EB1 gene product than a normal human tissue or no EB1 gene product.

In another embodiment of the invention a method is provided to assess treatment options for a cancer. The method comprises the step of: contacting a lysate of cancer cells with EB1 protein and detecting the formation of protein complexes comprising said EB1 protein, a lysate which fails to form complexes indicating cancer cells which are good candidates for treatment with cyclooxygenase inhibitors.

In yet another embodiment of the invention, a method is provided to assess the status of *APC* alleles in a cell. The method comprises the step of contacting a lysate of cells with EB1 protein, a lysate which fails to form complexes indicating cancer cells which may lack wild-type *APC*.

These and other embodiments of the invention provide the art with the identity of a gene and a protein which are involved in the suppression of neoplasia.

#### **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

Figure 1 shows the nucleotide and predicted amino acid sequences of EB1. The arrowheads above the sequences indicate the 5' termini of different *EB1* cDNA clones isolated by yeast two hybrid screening. The predicted amino acid sequence begins at nucleotide 65 and ends at the nucleotide 868. The nucleotide sequence has been deposited with Genbank (# U24166).

Figure 2 shows *in vitro* Binding of EB1 to APC. Figure 2A shows binding of cellular APC to GST-EB1 (glutathione S-transferase = GST) fusion protein. SW480 and HCT116 are human colorectal cancer cell lines that express truncated and full length APC, respectively (19). Protein from total cell lysates (-) or protein bound by GST-EB1 fusion protein (GST-EB1) were analyzed by Western blot analysis with APC-specific monoclonal antibody FE9 (19). Figure 2B shows the binding of EB1 to GST-APC fusion protein. GST-CTN has been described (19) and was used as a negative control. SW480 and HCT116 cells were metabolically labelled with <sup>35</sup>S-Met and incubated with the GST fusion proteins as indicated. *In vitro* transcribed and translated EB1 (in vitro) was run on gel

directly (-) or following binding to GST-APC(X) fusion protein as indicated. Proteins were detected by fluorography. Figure 2C shows one dimensional peptide mapping. Cellular (SW480, HCT116) and *in vitro* translated (in vitro) EB1 proteins were isolated by binding to GST-APC(X) and subjected to one dimensional peptide mapping as described (19).

Figure 3 shows *in vivo* association of APC and EB1. SW480 cells were transiently transfected with expression vectors for EB1 or APC as indicated. The parental expression vector pCMV-NEO-BAM (pCMV) was used to equalize the total amount of DNA transfected. Lysates prepared from these transfected cells were used directly (total), or after immunoprecipitation with a monoclonal antibody against hemagglutinin (HA) as negative control or an EB1-specific monoclonal antibody (EB1). Detection of APC was carried out by immunoblotting using APC specific monoclonal antibody FE9. MT and FL indicate truncated and full length APC, respectively.

Figure 4 shows the localization of EB1 to chromosome 20q11.2 by fluorescence in situ hybridization (FISH). The left panel shows an ideogram of a G-banded human chromosome 20 with the band q11.2 bracketed. The top right panel shows the fluorescent signals localizing *EB1* to chromosome 20. The bottom right panel shows a G-banded human chromosome 20 localizing *EB1* to 20q11.2.

Figure 5 shows human and yeast EB1 homologues. Figure 5A shows an amino acid sequence comparison among human EB1 homologues. EB2 represents the amino acid sequence predicted from the nucleotide sequence of a contig of 3 different EST's (Z46175, T17004 and Z42534.) The Z19434 and M85402 lines show the predicted amino acid sequences of these two EST's, respectively. Because of the lack of overlap between Z19434 and M85402, we could not determine whether they represented one or two genes. "-" indicates that no sequence information was available at that position. Figure 5B shows an amino acid sequence comparison between human EB1 and a potential yeast EB1 homologue. The sequence of Yer016p is predicted from an open reading frame (ORF) from yeast chromosome V as described in the text. "-" indicates gap introduced to

allow the best alignment between the two sequences. In both Figures 5A & 5B, blocks of homology are capitalized and shaded according to their mean scores.

#### **DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS**

We have identified a cDNA that codes for a protein that interacts with the carboxyl terminus of APC. This interaction was clearly demonstrated by binding of cellular APC to recombinant EB1 and by binding of cellular EB1 to recombinant APC. The association between EB1 and APC in mammalian cells was also demonstrated in cells cotransfected with vectors expressing these two proteins. Because almost all previously identified APC mutations result in the truncation of the APC protein, these mutant APC proteins cannot associate with EB1. This observation strongly suggests that the interaction between APC and EB1 is important for the normal function of APC and that loss of this association is essential for the development of colorectal cancer. Mutation of EB1 is one way that a cell can lose this association.

EB1 nucleic acid molecules according to the present invention include both ribonucleic acids and deoxyribonucleic acids. They may be incorporated as a part of a vector, such as a virus, phage, plasmid, minichromosome, etc. A vector typically contains an origin of replication which allows for independent replication of the nucleic acids of the vector and any insert it may be carrying. Suitable vectors may be chosen for a particular purpose, as is well within the skill of the art. Isolation and purification of nucleic acid molecules from other nucleic acid molecules and from other cellular components can be accomplished as is well known in the art. Nucleic acid molecules comprising at least about 12, 18, or 20 nucleotides of *EB1* coding sequence can be used *inter alia* as probes and primers. Probes are typically labelled with a detectable label such as a radionuclide, an enzyme, or ligand. Primers may have restriction enzyme sites or promoters appended, as may be desirable for cloning or *in vitro* protein synthesis. Nucleic acid molecules encoding at least about 6 or 20 contiguous amino acids of *EB1* can be used for expressing fragments of EB1, for example for use in fusion proteins or as antigens or immunogens. The nucleotide sequence of wild-type *EB1* is



provided in SEQ ID NO:1. The amino acid sequence of EB1 protein is provided in SEQ ID NO:2.

EB1 protein may be isolated and purified from human cells, from transformed mammalian, other eukaryotic, or prokaryotic cells. Purification may be accomplished employing antibodies which are specific for EB1, such as AE9, EA3, and GD10, as provided herein. Other antibodies can be used which are made using all or a portion of EB1 as an immunogen. Affinity methods may also be used which take advantage of the binding of EB1 to APC. EB1 may also be synthesized chemically or in an *in vitro* system, as described in more detail below. Portions of EB1 which contain at least 6 or 20 contiguous amino acids according to SEQ ID NO:2 can be used in assays and as immunogens. These can be synthesized and isolated according to established techniques with the benefit of the sequence information provided herein.

Predisposition to colorectal and other neoplasms can be determined by examination of a sample for a mutation in an *EB1* gene. Such other cancers include, but are not limited to desmoid tumors, osteomas, glioblastomas, medulloblastomas and other tumors of the central nervous system. Examination can be done by comparison with the wild-type sequence provided in SEQ ID NO:1 or to the *EB1* found in human tissues which are normal. It can also be done by determining diminished expression of EB1 protein or message, or failure of EB1 to form complexes with APC. Methods for determining mutations include PCR, sequencing, restriction mapping, S1 nuclease mapping, and hybridization with allele-specific probes. Any method known in the art can be used. Methods for determining diminished EB1 expression or failure to form complexes with APC can be determined using techniques such as immunoprecipitation, immunoblotting, immunohistochemistry, etc. Antibodies which are particularly useful for such purposes are monoclonal antibodies AE9, EA3 and GD10, whose isolation and production are discussed in more detail below. Polyclonal antibodies can also be used, especially if purified to render a preparation monospecific. Samples which may be tested for assessing susceptibility to colorectal cancer include blood,

chorionic villi, fetal trophoblasts, amniotic fluid, and blastomeres of pre-implantation embryos. Solid tissues can also be tested to determine predisposition and/or diagnosis.

Assays using EB1 can be used to assess the status of *APC* alleles, since according to the present invention EB1 and APC interact. Thus, for example, a lysate of cells can be contacted with EB1 protein and the formation of protein complexes comprising EB1 protein can be detected. If the lysate fails to form complexes with EB1 the cells are likely cancer cells which lack wild-type *APC*. Other means for measuring the interaction of EB1 with APC can be used to provide such information.

The drug sulindac has been shown to inhibit the growth of benign colon tumors in patients with familial adenomatous polyposis (FAP), presumably by virtue of its activity as a cyclooxygenase inhibitor (Waddell et al., J. Surg. Oncology 24(1), 83 (1983); Wadell, et al., Am. J. Surg., 157(1), 175 (1989); Charneau et al., Gastroenterologie Clinique et Biologique 14(2), 153 (1990)). Cyclooxygenase is required to convert arachidonic acid to prostaglandins and other biologically active molecules. Since FAP is attributed to mutations in *APC*, treatment options for a cancer may be assessed using EB1. EB1 can be used as described above to assess the status of *APC* alleles. Cells which fail to form protein complexes with EB1 are likely cancer cells which are good candidates for treatment with cyclooxygenase inhibitors, such as sulindac.

## **EXAMPLES**

### **Example 1**

This example describes the isolation of a gene which encodes a protein which interacts with the carboxy terminus of APC.

We used a modified yeast two hybrid system (22,23) to screen a HeLa cDNA library for proteins interacting with the carboxyl terminus (codons 2167 to 2843) of APC. A total of 90 positive clones with the appropriate phenotype were identified after screening one million transformants. The cDNAs isolated from 67

out of these 90 clones were able to confer the correct phenotype when retransformed into the test strain of yeast. The nucleotide sequences of both ends of each cDNA were determined and were compared to each other. Forty-eight of these cDNAs were found to be derived from a same gene and could be separated into 11 groups according to their length (Figure 1). We chose to characterize this cDNA in detail and named it EB1 (for *EcoRI* fragment binding protein 1). The fusion proteins encoded by two independent cDNA clones did not interact with amino proximal residues 6 to 1013 when tested in the two hybrid assay.

Northern blot analysis with probes to EB1 identified a single 2.4 kb transcript. Because the largest EB1 cDNA isolated by interaction trap method was 1.4 kb, we screened a human fetal brain cDNA library to isolate the full length cDNA. None of the newly isolated cDNA clones had additional 5' nucleotide sequence but many of them had additional 3' nucleotide sequence extending the length of the cloned message to 2.4 kb. Furthermore, no additional 5' sequence was obtained after screening three 5'-RACE cDNA libraries. Together, these results suggest that the full-length message for EB1 had been isolated. Nucleotide sequence analysis of the overlapping cDNA clones revealed an ORF extending from nucleotide 1 to 868 (Figure 1). If translation initiated at the first methionine, *EB1* would be predicted to encode a 268 amino acid protein with a predicted molecular weight of 30 kD.

**Methods: Two hybrid screening.** The modified yeast two hybrid system, the cDNA library and screening the cDNA library using this system have been described (22, 23). The bait was made by inserting a 2.5 Kb *EcoRI* fragment of *APC* containing nucleotides 6498 to 8950 into the *SmaI* site of LexA(1-202)+PL (24) after making the *EcoRI* fragment blunt-ended using the Klenow fragment of DNA polymerase I.

#### Example 2

This example demonstrates the *in vitro* and *in vivo* binding of APC to EB1.

To confirm and extend the two hybrid results, we tested the direct interaction between EB1 and APC using an *in vitro* binding assay. The carboxyl

terminal 163 residues of EB1 were expressed as a glutathione-S-transferase fusion protein in *E. coli*. This fragment was expected to bind APC because it included more of EB1 than several of the *EB1* cDNA clones originally isolated by the yeast interaction trap method. As expected, this fusion protein was able to associate with the full-length APC from cell lysates, but was unable to bind to mutant APC that lacked the putative EB1 binding region (Figure 2A). This result clearly showed that EB1 interacts with endogenous APC and that this interaction requires the carboxyl terminus of APC.

To test whether APC could bind endogenous EB1, we expressed amino acid codons 2167 to 2843 of APC as a GST fusion protein (GST-APCE) and incubated the purified fusion protein bound on the glutathione agarose with lysates prepared from metabolically labeled colon cancer cell lines. The APC fusion protein bound a 30 kD cellular protein bound which had identical mobility to the EB1 expressed *in vitro* (Figure 2B). To confirm that this 30 kD protein was indeed EB1, we compared the one-dimensional peptide map of this 30 kD protein with that of EB1 expressed *in vitro*. The peptide maps of these proteins were identical (Figure 2C). This result also provided additional evidence that the first codon for methionine in the EB1 cDNA is the translational initiation codon.

**Methods: GST fusion proteins.** The pGSTagEB1A expression vector was constructed using an EcoRI fragment (nucleotides 317 to 899 of EB1) of an EB1 cDNA clone isolated by interaction trap screening. After subcloning into the EcoRI site of pBluescript SK II, the EcoRI fragment was excised as a BamHI-SalI fragment and inserted into the BamHI and XhoI sites of pGSTag (25). The pGSTagEB1B expression vector constructed by inserting a 1.8 Kb SalI-HindIII fragment (nucleotides 40 to 2091) of an EB1 cDNA clone isolated from human fetal brain cDNA library into the SalI and HindIII sites of pGSTag. The pGSTagAPCE expression vector was constructed by inserting the 2.5 Kb EcoRI fragment of *APC* cDNA, identical to that used for making the bait for two hybrid screening, into the EcoRI site of pGSTag. The expression and purification of fusion proteins were carried out as described (19).

**Methods:** PCR and *in vitro* expression of EB1. The EB1 coding region was amplified by using the upstream primer 5'-GGATCCTAATACGACTCACTATAGGGAGACCACCATGGCAGTGAACGTATACTC-3' and the downstream primer 5'-ATTTCTCCACTGAGGTCGC-3'. The upstream primer contains the sequence of the promoter for the T7 DNA polymerase and the first 20 nucleotides of the EB1 coding sequence. The downstream primer locates at the 3' untranslated region of EB1. The PCR reaction was carried out using an isolated cDNA clone as the template with 35 cycles of 30 sec at 95°C, 1 min at 50°C, and 1 min at 70°C. The PCR product was using directly in a coupled *in vitro* transcription and translation reaction as described (26).

**Methods:** *in vitro* binding assay. Metabolically labelled protein extracts from the human colorectal cancer cell lines SW480 and HCT116 were used for the *in vitro* binding assay. Metabolic labeling, preparation of cell lysates, *in vitro* binding, and peptide mapping were carried out as described (19).

### Example 3

This example demonstrates the *in vivo* association of EB1 and APC by co-immunoprecipitation.

In order to further characterize the association APC and EB1, three monoclonal antibodies (AE9, EA3 and GD10) against EB1 were generated. Western blot analysis with all three of these antibodies detected a 30 kD protein in total cell lysates which associated with GST-APCE, but not with a control protein GST-CTN. EB1 protein was detected in several human colon cancer cell lines including a human kidney fibroblast cell line 293, the canine kidney epithelial cell line MDCK, and the mouse fibroblast cell line NIH3T3. To demonstrate an *in vivo* association between EB1 and APC in mammalian cells, SW480 cells were transiently transfected with vectors expressing APC or EB1. The association between these two proteins was examined by immunoprecipitation using the EB1-specific antibody EA3 followed by immunoblotting with the APC-specific antibody FE9. The co-immunoprecipitation of APC and EB1 was clearly demonstrated

when cells were transfected with both expression vectors but not when either one was omitted. (Figure 3.)

We have not been able to detect the association between endogenous full-length APC and EB1 by co-immunoprecipitation experiments. The reason for this may be purely technical. This is consistent with our inability to co-immunoprecipitate APC and EB1 from cell lysates prepared from yeast clones with clear functional evidence of an association between these two proteins as reflected by the two-hybrid assay. Similar reasons have also been suggested for the failure to demonstrate an association between pRB and RBP2 by co-immunoprecipitation (26, 27).

**Methods: Monoclonal antibodies.** The three EB1 monoclonal antibodies, AE9, EA3, and GD10, were derived from mice immunized with GST-EB1 fusion protein. Immunization of mice, cell fusion, and the preparation of monoclonal antibodies were carried out as described (27). The EA3 monoclonal was found to specifically recognize EB1 by both Western blot and immunoprecipitation.

**Methods: *in vivo* Binding Assay.** SW480 cell lines were transiently transfected with pCMV-APC or pCMV-EB1. The pCMV-APC was as described (20) and the pCMV-EB1 vector was derived by cloning a PCR product containing EB1 nucleotides 62 to 871 into the BamHI site of pCMV-NEO-BAM. PCR was performed with following primers which were engineered to include the underlined BglII sites: 5'-CGAGATCTAAGATGGCAGTGAACGTATAC-3' and 5'-GCAGATCTTTAATACTCTTCTTGATCCTCC-3'). To eliminate the possibility of PCR errors, the sequence of the EB1 fragment cloned into pCMV-EB1 was verified by nucleotide sequencing. Transient transfections, preparation of cell lysates, immunoprecipitation and western blot analysis were performed as described (16, 19, 20).

#### Example 4

This example demonstrates the chromosomal mapping of EB1.

The chromosomal localization of EB1 was determined by fluorescence in situ hybridization (FISH). Three P1 clones for EB1 were isolated from a P1

library by PCR. One of these P1 clones was used as the probe in the FISH analysis as previously described (24). Sixteen out of a total of 17 metaphase cell examined displayed double fluorescent signals (i.e. one on each chromatin) on the proximal short arm of chromosome 20. The same cells hybridized for FISH had been previously G-banded and photographed to allow direct comparisons of the results. The result demonstrated that the sequences hybridizing to EB1 can be localized to 20q11.2 (Figure 4).

**Methods: Chromosomal localization.** Three EB1 genomic clones (EB-922, EB1-923, EB1-924) were obtained by PCR screening of A P1 library (Genome Systems, Inc.) using primers (5'-AAAACAGAGAGGCTGACCG-3 and 5'-ATTTCTCCACTGAGGTCGC-3') designed to amplify EB1 nucleotides 1102 to 1205. Total EB1-923 DNA was labeled with Biotin-16-dUTP by nick translation and used for FISH. For FISH, about 100 ng of probe was used in 10  $\mu$ l hybridization mixture (55% formamide, 2X SSC, and 1  $\mu$ g human Cot 1 DNA) which was denatured at 75°C for 5 minutes. Hybridization was carried out using a modified procedure of Pinkel et al. (28) as previously described (29).

#### Example 5

This example analyzes the nucleotide and amino acid sequences of EB1.

Searches of the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI) non-redundant nucleotide and EST (expressed sequence tag) databases indicated that EB1 had not been previously characterized although there were several ESTs that were almost identical to parts of the 3' untranslated region. Interestingly, there were also five ESTs which were similar but not identical to the coding region of EB1. These ESTs likely represented novel EB1-related genes rather than sequencing mistakes as there were numerous nucleotide substitutions that preserved the encoded amino acids of *EB1* in these ESTs. These five ESTs could be divided into three contigs which represented at least two different EB1 related proteins (Figure 5A). Searches of NCBI's non-redundant protein database with EB1 identified three proteins with statistically significant ( $P < 0.05$ ) multiple regions of homology. These were a calcium channel protein from carp (PIR# A37860, P

= .0075), a bacterial RNA polymerase sigma chain homolog (PIR # JN0445, P = .0028) and Yer016p ( $P = 2.4 \times 10^{-33}$ ). Yer016p is a putative gene identified in a 66,030 bp *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* chromosome V cosmid contig (Genbank #U18778). The predicted Yer016p protein shared five blocks of similarity with EB1 and could represent a yeast homolog of EB1 (Figure 5B). Together, these data suggest that EB1 is a member of a highly conserved multi-gene family.

**Methods: Database searches and alignments.** The NCBI's non-redundant nucleotide, non-redundant protein and DBEST databases (1/19/95 releases) were searched using the BLASTN, BLASTP and TBLASTN basic local alignment search software, respectively (30). Multiple alignments were performed using the MACAW multiple alignment construction and analysis software version 2.03 (31).

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SEQUENCE LISTING

## (1) GENERAL INFORMATION:

- (i) APPLICANT: The Johns Hopkins University
- (ii) TITLE OF INVENTION: EB1 Gene Product Binds to APC
- (iii) NUMBER OF SEQUENCES: 12
- (iv) CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS:
  - (A) ADDRESSEE: Banner & Allegretti, Ltd.
  - (B) STREET: 1001 G Street, N.W.
  - (C) CITY: Washington
  - (D) STATE: D.C.
  - (E) COUNTRY: U.S.
  - (F) ZIP: 20001-4597
- (v) COMPUTER READABLE FORM:
  - (A) MEDIUM TYPE: Floppy disk
  - (B) COMPUTER: IBM PC compatible
  - (C) OPERATING SYSTEM: PC-DOS/MS-DOS
  - (D) SOFTWARE: PatentIn Release #1.0, Version #1.25
- (vi) CURRENT APPLICATION DATA:
  - (A) APPLICATION NUMBER:
  - (B) FILING DATE: 22-MAY-1996
  - (C) CLASSIFICATION:
- (viii) ATTORNEY/AGENT INFORMATION:
  - (A) NAME: Kagan, Sarah A.
  - (B) REGISTRATION NUMBER: 32,141
  - (C) REFERENCE/DOCKET NUMBER: 01107.49255
- (ix) TELECOMMUNICATION INFORMATION:
  - (A) TELEPHONE: 202.508.9100
  - (B) TELEFAX: 202.508.9299

## (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:1:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
  - (A) LENGTH: 2540 base pairs
  - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
  - (C) STRANDEDNESS: double
  - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA
- (iii) HYPOTHETICAL: NO
- (iv) ANTI-SENSE: NO
- (v) ORIGINAL SOURCE:
  - (A) ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
- (vii) IMMEDIATE SOURCE:
  - (B) CLONE: EB1
- (viii) POSITION IN GENOME:
  - (A) CHROMOSOME/SEGMENT: 20q11.2

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## (ix) FEATURE:

(A) NAME/KEY: CDS

(B) LOCATION: 65..868

## (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:1:

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Met Ala Val Asn Val Tyr Ser Thr Ser Val Thr Ser Asp Asn Leu	
1 5 10 15	
AGT CGA CAT GAC ATG CTG GCC TGG ATC AAT GAG TCT CTG CAG TTG AAT	157
Ser Arg His Asp Met Leu Ala Trp Ile Asn Glu Ser Leu Gln Leu Asn	
20 25 30	
CTG ACA AAG ATC GAA CAG TTG TGC TCA GGG GCT GCG TAT TGT CAG TTT	205
Leu Thr Lys Ile Glu Gln Leu Cys Ser Gly Ala Ala Tyr Cys Gln Phe	
35 40 45	
ATG GAC ATG CTG TTC CCT GGC TCC ATT GCC TTG AAG AAA GTG AAA TTC	253
Met Asp Met Leu Phe Pro Gly Ser Ile Ala Leu Lys Lys Val Lys Phe	
50 55 60	
CAA GCT AAG CTA GAA CAC GAG TAC ATC CAG AAC TTC AAA ATA CTA CAA	301
Gln Ala Lys Leu Glu His Glu Tyr Ile Gln Asn Phe Lys Ile Leu Gln	
65 70 75	
GCA GGT TTT AAG AGA ATG GGT GTT GAC AAA ATA ATT CCT GTG GAC AAA	349
Ala Gly Phe Lys Arg Met Gly Val Asp Lys Ile Ile Pro Val Asp Lys	
80 85 90 95	
TTA GTA AAA GGA AAG TTT CAG GAC AAT TTT GAA TTC GTT CAG TGG TTC	397
Leu Val Lys Gly Lys Phe Gln Asp Asn Phe Glu Phe Val Gln Trp Phe	
100 105 110	
AAG AAG TTT TTC GAT GCA AAC TAT GAT GGA AAA GAC TAT GAC CCT GTG	445
Lys Lys Phe Phe Asp Ala Asn Tyr Asp Gly Lys Asp Tyr Asp Pro Val	
115 120 125	
GCT GCC AGA CAA GGT CAA GAA ACT GCA GTG GCT CCT TCC CTT GTT GCT	493
Ala Ala Arg Gln Gly Gln Glu Thr Ala Val Ala Pro Ser Leu Val Ala	
130 135 140	
CCA GCT CTG AAT AAA CCG AAG AAA CCT CTC ACT TCT AGC AGT GCA GCT	541
Pro Ala Leu Asn Lys Pro Lys Lys Pro Leu Thr Ser Ser Ser Ala Ala	
145 150 155	
CCC CAG AGG CCC ATC TCA ACA CAG AGA ACC GCT GCG GCT CCT AAG GCT	589
Pro Gln Arg Pro Ile Ser Thr Gln Arg Thr Ala Ala Ala Pro Lys Ala	
160 165 170 175	
GGC CCT GGT GTG GTG CGA AAG AAC CCT GGT GTG GGC AAC GGA GAC GAC	637
Gly Pro Gly Val Val Arg Lys Asn Pro Gly Val Gly Asn Gly Asp Asp	
180 185 190	
GAG GCA GCT GAG TTG ATG CAG CAG GTC AAC GTA TTG AAA CTT ACT GTT	685
Glu Ala Ala Glu Leu Met Gln Gln Val Asn Val Leu Lys Leu Thr Val	
195 200 205	

- 20 -

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ATT GAA TTG ATT TGC CAG GAG AAC GAG GGG GAA AAC GAC CCT GTA TTG Ile Glu Leu Ile Cys Gln Glu Asn Glu Gly Glu Asn Asp Pro Val Leu 225 230 235	781
CAG AGG ATT GTA GAC ATT CTG TAT GCC ACA GAT GAA GGC TTT GTG ATA Gln Arg Ile Val Asp Ile Leu Tyr Ala Thr Asp Glu Gly Phe Val Ile 240 245 250 255	829
CCT GAT GAA GGG GGC CCA CAG GAG GAG CAA GAA GAG TAT TAACAGCCTG Pro Asp Glu Gly Gly Pro Gln Glu Glu Gln Glu Tyr 260 265	878
GACCAGCAGA GCAACATCGG AATTCTTCAC TCCAAATCAT GTGCTTAACT GTAAAATACT	938
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 TAAAATTCCA TTTTATTGGG AACCCATTTT CCACCTGGTC TTTCTTGACA GGGTTTTTTT 2498  
 CTACTTTAAA CAGTTTCTAA ATAAAATTCT GTATTTCAAA AA 2540

## (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:2:

## (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 268 amino acids  
 (B) TYPE: amino acid  
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

## (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

## (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:2:

Met Ala Val Asn Val Tyr Ser Thr Ser Val Thr Ser Asp Asn Leu Ser  
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 20 25 30  
 Thr Lys Ile Glu Gln Leu Cys Ser Gly Ala Ala Tyr Cys Gln Phe Met  
 35 40 45  
 Asp Met Leu Phe Pro Gly Ser Ile Ala Leu Lys Lys Val Lys Phe Gln  
 50 55 60  
 Ala Lys Leu Glu His Glu Tyr Ile Gln Asn Phe Lys Ile Leu Gln Ala  
 65 70 75 80  
 Gly Phe Lys Arg Met Gly Val Asp Lys Ile Ile Pro Val Asp Lys Leu  
 85 90 95  
 Val Lys Gly Lys Phe Gln Asp Asn Phe Glu Phe Val Gln Trp Phe Lys  
 100 105 110  
 Lys Phe Phe Asp Ala Asn Tyr Asp Gly Lys Asp Tyr Asp Pro Val Ala  
 115 120 125  
 Ala Arg Gln Gly Gln Glu Thr Ala Val Ala Pro Ser Leu Val Ala Pro  
 130 135 140  
 Ala Leu Asn Lys Pro Lys Lys Pro Leu Thr Ser Ser Ser Ala Ala Pro  
 145 150 155 160  
 Gln Arg Pro Ile Ser Thr Gln Arg Thr Ala Ala Ala Pro Lys Ala Gly  
 165 170 175  
 Pro Gly Val Val Arg Lys Asn Pro Gly Val Gly Asn Gly Asp Asp Glu  
 180 185 190  
 Ala Ala Glu Leu Met Gln Gln Val Asn Val Leu Lys Leu Thr Val Glu  
 195 200 205

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Asp Leu Glu Lys Glu Arg Asp Phe Tyr Phe Gly Lys Leu Arg Asn Ile  
 210 215 220

Glu Leu Ile Cys Gln Glu Asn Glu Gly Glu Asn Asp Pro Val Leu Gln  
 225 230 235 240

Arg Ile Val Asp Ile Leu Tyr Ala Thr Asp Glu Gly Phe Val Ile Pro  
 245 250 255

Asp Glu Gly Gly Pro Gln Glu Glu Gln Glu Glu Tyr  
 260 265

## (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:3:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
  - (A) LENGTH: 149 amino acids
  - (B) TYPE: amino acid
  - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide
- (iii) HYPOTHETICAL: YES
- (iv) ANTI-SENSE: NO
- (vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE:
  - (A) ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
- (vii) IMMEDIATE SOURCE:
  - (B) CLONE: BB2
- (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:3:

Ile Ala Trp Val Asn Asp Ile Val Ser Leu Asn Tyr Thr Lys Val Glu  
 1 5 10 15

Gln Leu Cys Ser Gly Ala Ala Tyr Cys Gln Phe Met Asp Met Leu Phe  
 20 25 30

Pro Gly Cys Ile Ser Leu Lys Lys Val Lys Phe Gln Ala Lys Leu Glu  
 35 40 45

His Glu Tyr Ile His Asn Phe Lys Leu Leu Gln Ala Ser Phe Lys Arg  
 50 55 60

Met Asn Val Asp Lys Val Ile Pro Val Glu Lys Leu Val Lys Gly Arg  
 65 70 75 80

Phe Gln Asp Asn Leu Asp Phe Ile Gln Trp Phe Lys Lys Phe Tyr Asp  
 85 90 95

Ala Asn Tyr Asp Gly Lys Glu Tyr Asp Pro Val Glu Ala Arg Gln Gly  
 100 105 110

Gln Asp Ala Ile Pro Pro Pro Asp Pro Gly Glu Gln Ile Phe Asn Leu  
 115 120 125

Pro Lys Lys Ser His His Ala Asn Ser Pro Thr Ala Gly Ala Ala Lys  
 130 135 140



- 23 -

Phe Lys Phe Gln Xaa  
145

## (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:4:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:  
 (A) LENGTH: 344 amino acids  
 (B) TYPE: amino acid  
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide
- (iii) HYPOTHETICAL: YES
- (iv) ANTI-SENSE: NO
- (vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE:  
 (A) ORGANISM: *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*
- (vii) IMMEDIATE SOURCE:  
 (B) CLONE: Yer016p
- (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:4:
- |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Met | Ser | Ala | Gly | Ile | Gly | Glu | Ser | Arg | Thr | Glu | Leu | Leu | Thr | Trp | Leu | 1   | 5   | 10  | 15  |
| Asn | Gly | Leu | Leu | Asn | Leu | Asn | Tyr | Lys | Lys | Ile | Glu | Glu | Cys | Gly | Thr | 20  | 25  | 30  |     |
| Gly | Ala | Ala | Tyr | Cys | Gln | Ile | Met | Asp | Ser | Ile | Tyr | Gly | Asp | Leu | Pro | 35  | 40  | 45  |     |
| Met | Asn | Arg | Val | Lys | Phe | Asn | Ala | Thr | Ala | Glu | Tyr | Glu | Phe | Gln | Thr | 50  | 55  | 60  |     |
| Asn | Tyr | Lys | Ile | Leu | Gln | Ser | Cys | Phe | Ser | Arg | His | Gly | Ile | Glu | Lys | 65  | 70  | 75  | 80  |
| Thr | Val | Tyr | Val | Asp | Lys | Leu | Ile | Arg | Cys | Lys | Phe | Gln | Asp | Asn | Leu | 85  | 90  | 95  |     |
| Glu | Phe | Leu | Gln | Trp | Leu | Lys | Lys | His | Trp | Ile | Arg | His | Lys | Asp | Glu | 100 | 105 | 110 |     |
| Ser | Val | Tyr | Asp | Pro | Asp | Ala | Arg | Arg | Lys | Tyr | Arg | Pro | Ile | Ile | Thr | 115 | 120 | 125 |     |
| Asn | Asn | Ser | Ala | Thr | Lys | Pro | Arg | Thr | Val | Ser | Asn | Pro | Thr | Thr | Ala | 130 | 135 | 140 |     |
| Lys | Arg | Ser | Ser | Ser | Thr | Gly | Thr | Gly | Ser | Ala | Met | Ser | Gly | Gly | Leu | 145 | 150 | 155 | 160 |
| Ala | Thr | Arg | His | Ser | Ser | Leu | Gly | Ile | Asn | Gly | Ser | Arg | Lys | Thr | Ser | 165 | 170 | 175 |     |
| Val | Thr | Gln | Gly | Gln | Leu | Val | Ala | Ile | Gln | Ala | Glu | Leu | Thr | Lys | Ser | 180 | 185 | 190 |     |

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Gln Glu Thr Ile Gly Ser Leu Asn Glu Glu Ile Glu Gln Tyr Lys Gly  
 195 200 205  
 Thr Val Ser Thr Leu Glu Ile Glu Arg Glu Phe Tyr Phe Asn Lys Leu  
 210 215 220  
 Arg Asp Ile Glu Ile Leu Val His Thr Thr Gln Asp Leu Ile Asn Glu  
 225 230 235 240  
 Gly Val Tyr Lys Phe Asn Asp Glu Thr Ile Thr Gly His Gly Asn Gly  
 245 250 255  
 Asn Gly Gly Ala Leu Leu Arg Phe Val Lys Lys Val Glu Ser Ile Leu  
 260 265 270  
 Tyr Ala Thr Ala Glu Gly Phe Glu Met Asn Asp Gly Glu Asp Glu Leu  
 275 280 285  
 Asn Asp Lys Asn Leu Gly Glu His Gly Thr Val Pro Asn Gln Gly Gly  
 290 295 300  
 Tyr Ala Asn Ser Asn Gly Glu Val Asn Gly Asn Glu Gly Ser Asn His  
 305 310 315 320  
 Asp Val Ile Met Gln Asn Asp Glu Gly Glu Val Gly Val Ser Asn Asn  
 325 330 335  
 Leu Ile Ile Asp Glu Glu Thr Phe  
 340

## (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:5:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
  - (A) LENGTH: 112 amino acids
  - (B) TYPE: amino acid
  - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide
- (iii) HYPOTHETICAL: YES
- (iv) ANTI-SENSE: NO
- (vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE:
  - (A) ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
- (vii) IMMEDIATE SOURCE:
  - (B) CLONE: z19434
- (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:5:

Asp Glu Asp Pro Pro Pro Arg Ser Arg Arg Pro Glu Pro Gln Pro Leu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Pro Gln Arg Pro Arg His Leu Ser Pro Pro Pro Pro Pro Pro Glu  
 20 25 30  
 Pro Pro Arg Ala Leu Trp Gly Met Ala Val Asn Val Tyr Ser Thr Ser  
 35 40 45

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Val Thr Ser Glu Asn Leu Ser Arg His Asp Met Leu Ala Trp Val Asn  
 50 55 60

Asp Ser Leu His Leu Asn Tyr Thr Lys Ile Glu Gln Leu Cys Ser Gly  
 65 70 75 80

Ala Ala Tyr Cys Gln Phe Met Asp Met Leu Phe Pro Gly Cys Val His  
 85 90 95

Leu Arg Lys Val Lys Phe Gln Gly Lys Leu Gly His Xaa Tyr Ile His  
 100 105 110

## (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:6:

## (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 120 amino acids
- (B) TYPE: amino acid
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

(iii) HYPOTHETICAL: YES

(iv) ANTI-SENSE: NO

(vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE:

(A) ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

(vii) IMMEDIATE SOURCE:

(B) CLONE: M85402

## (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:6:

Asn Phe Lys Val Leu Gln Xaa Ala Phe Lys Lys Met Gly Val Asp Lys  
 1 5 10 15

Ile Ile Pro Val Glu Lys Leu Val Lys Gly Lys Phe Gln Asp Asn Phe  
 20 25 30

Xaa Phe Ile Gln Trp Phe Lys Lys Xaa Phe Asp Ala Asn Tyr Asp Gly  
 35 40 45

Lys Asp Tyr Asn Pro Leu Leu Ala Arg Gln Gly Gln Asp Val Ala Pro  
 50 55 60

Pro Pro Asn Pro Val Pro Gln Arg Thr Ser Pro Thr Gly Pro Lys Asn  
 65 70 75 80

Met Gln Thr Ser Gly Arg Leu Ser Asn Val Ala Pro Pro Cys Ile Leu  
 85 90 95

Arg Lys Xaa Pro Pro Ser Ala Arg Asn Gly Gly His Glu Thr Cys Pro  
 100 105 110

Asn Ser Leu Asn Ser Asn Gln Gln  
 115 120

## (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:7:

## (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- 26 -

- (A) LENGTH: 54 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA

(iii) HYPOTHETICAL: NO

(iv) ANTI-SENSE: NO

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:7:

GGATCCTAAT ACGACTCACT ATAGGGAGAC CACCATGGCA GTGAACGTAT ACTC

54

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:8:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 19 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA

(iii) HYPOTHETICAL: NO

(iv) ANTI-SENSE: NO

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:8:

ATTCTCCAC TGAGGTGCG

19

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:9:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 28 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA

(iii) HYPOTHETICAL: NO

(iv) ANTI-SENSE: NO

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:9:

CGAGATCTAA GATGGCAGTG AACGTATA

28

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:10:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 30 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid

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(C) STRANDEDNESS: single  
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA

(iii) HYPOTHETICAL: NO

(iv) ANTI-SENSE: NO

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:10:

GCAGATCTTT AATACTCTTC TTGATCCTCC

30

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:11:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:  
(A) LENGTH: 19 base pairs  
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid  
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single  
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA

(iii) HYPOTHETICAL: NO

(iv) ANTI-SENSE: NO

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:11:

AAAACAGAGA GGCTGACCG

19

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:12:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:  
(A) LENGTH: 19 base pairs  
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid  
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single  
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA

(iii) HYPOTHETICAL: NO

(iv) ANTI-SENSE: NO

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:12:

ATTTCCTCCAC TGAGGTCCG

19

**CLAIMS**

1. A nucleic acid molecule comprising an *EB1* DNA according to SEQ ID NO:1.
2. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 further comprising a vector containing an origin of replication.
3. An isolated and purified nucleic acid molecule comprising at least 18 contiguous nucleotides of *EB1* coding sequence according to SEQ ID NO:1.
4. An isolated and purified nucleic acid molecule which comprises a coding sequence which encodes at least 20 contiguous amino acids of *EB1* according to SEQ ID NO:2.
5. An isolated and purified EB1 protein according to SEQ ID NO:2.
6. An isolated and purified EB1 polypeptide comprising at least 20 contiguous amino acids according to SEQ ID NO:2.
7. An isolated and purified nucleic acid molecule consisting of at least 12 contiguous nucleotides of *EB1* coding sequence according to SEQ ID NO:1.
8. An isolated and purified nucleic acid molecule consisting of a coding sequence for at least 6 contiguous amino acids of *EB1* according to SEQ ID NO:2.
9. An isolated and purified EB1 polypeptide consisting of at least 6 contiguous amino acids according to SEQ ID NO:2.
10. A method for determining a predisposition to neoplasms, comprising the step of:

determining a mutation in an *EB1* allele of a human tissue, wherein wild-type *EB1* is as shown in SEQ ID NO:1.
11. The method of claim 10 wherein said human tissue is selected from the group consisting of blood, chorionic villi, fetal trophoblasts, amniotic fluid, and a blastomere of a pre-implantation embryo.
12. A method for determining a predisposition to neoplasms, comprising the step of:

assaying protein complexes in a cell, wherein said protein complexes comprise APC and EB1, wherein reduction of said complexes in the

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cell relative to a cell which contains wild-type *APC* and wild-type *EB1* alleles indicates a predisposition to neoplasms.

13. The method of claim 12 wherein said step of assaying is performed by immunoprecipitation followed by immunoblotting.

14. The method of claim 13 wherein immunoprecipitation is performed with an antibody specifically immunoreactive with *APC*.

15. The method of claim 13 wherein immunoprecipitation is performed with an antibody specifically immunoreactive with *EB1*.

16. The method of claim 14 wherein immunoblotting is performed with an antibody specifically immunoreactive with *EB1*.

17. The method of claim 15 wherein immunoblotting is performed with an antibody specifically immunoreactive with *APC*.

18. An antibody preparation which is specifically immunoreactive with *EB1*.

19. The preparation of claim 17 wherein said antibody is monoclonal.

20. The preparation of claim 17 wherein said antibody is polyclonal.

21. A method for determining a predisposition to cancer, comprising the steps of:

testing a human tissue to determine if the tissue expresses less *EB1* gene products than a normal human tissue.

22. The method of claim 21 wherein the step of testing utilizes an antibody which is specifically immunoreactive with *EB1* protein.

23. The method of claim 21 wherein the step of testing utilizes a nucleic acid probe which specifically hybridizes to an *EB1* mRNA, said probe having a sequence of at least 12 contiguous nucleotides selected from SEQ ID NO:1.

24. A method for diagnosing a neoplasm, comprising the step of:  
determining mutations in *EB1* alleles of a human tissue,  
wherein wild-type *EB1* is as shown in SEQ ID NO:1.

25. A method for diagnosing a neoplasm, comprising the step of:

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assaying protein complexes in a cell, wherein said protein complexes comprise APC and EB1, wherein absence of said complexes indicates a neoplasm.

26. The method of claim 25 wherein said step of assaying is performed by immunoprecipitation followed by immunoblotting.

27. The method of claim 26 wherein immunoprecipitation is performed with an antibody specifically immunoreactive with APC.

28. The method of claim 26 wherein immunoprecipitation is performed with an antibody specifically immunoreactive with EB1.

29. The method of claim 27 wherein immunoblotting is performed with an antibody specifically immunoreactive with EB1.

30. The method of claim 28 wherein immunoblotting is performed with an antibody specifically immunoreactive with APC.

31. A method for diagnosing a neoplasm, comprising the step of:  
testing a human tissue to determine if the tissue expresses EB1 gene products, wherein a tissue which expresses no EB1 gene products is neoplastic.

32. The method of claim 31 wherein the step of testing utilizes an antibody which is specifically immunoreactive with EB1 protein.

33. The method of claim 31 wherein the step of testing utilizes a nucleic acid probe which specifically hybridizes to an *EB1* mRNA, said probe having a sequence of at least 12 contiguous nucleotides selected from SEQ ID NO:1.

34. A method to assess treatment options for a cancer, comprising the step of:

contacting a lysate of cancer cells with EB1 protein and detecting the formation of protein complexes comprising said EB1 protein, a lysate which fails to form complexes indicating cancer cells which are good candidates for treatment with cyclooxygenase inhibitors.

35. A method to assess the status of *APC* alleles in a cell, comprising the step of:



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contacting a lysate of cells with EB1 protein and detecting the formation of protein complexes comprising said EB1 protein, a lysate which fails to form complexes indicating cancer cells which may lack wild-type *APC*.

**FIGURE 1**



FIGURE 2A

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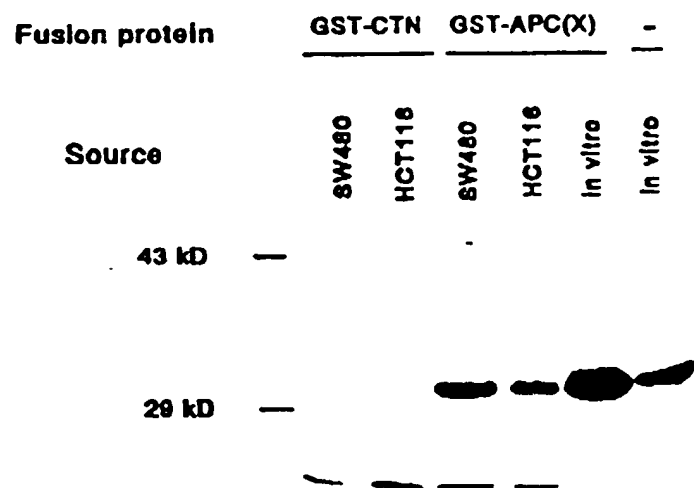


FIGURE 2B

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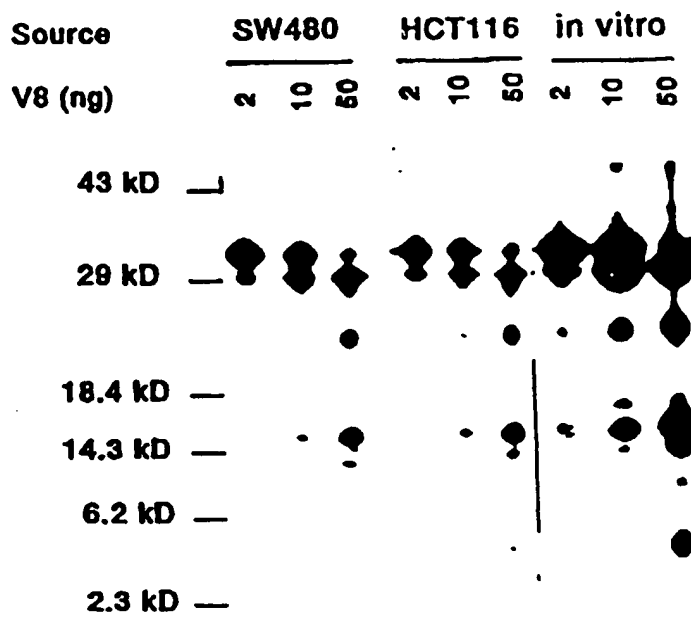


FIGURE 2c

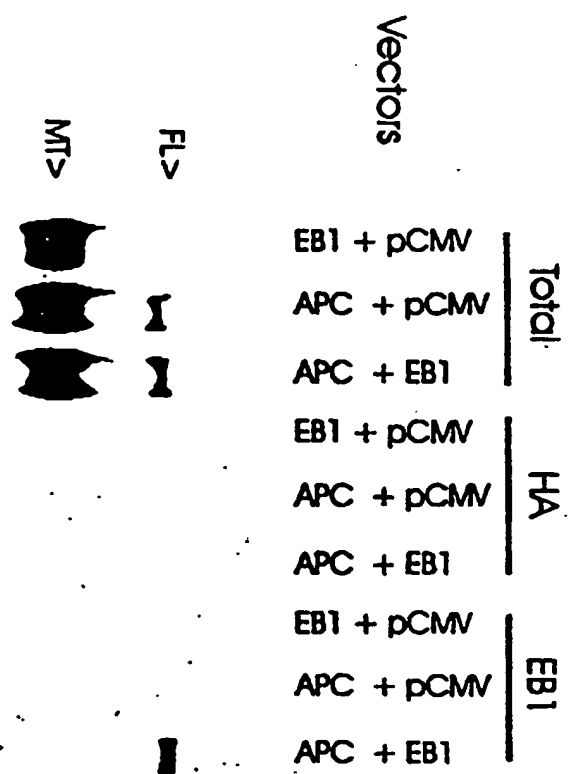


FIGURE 3

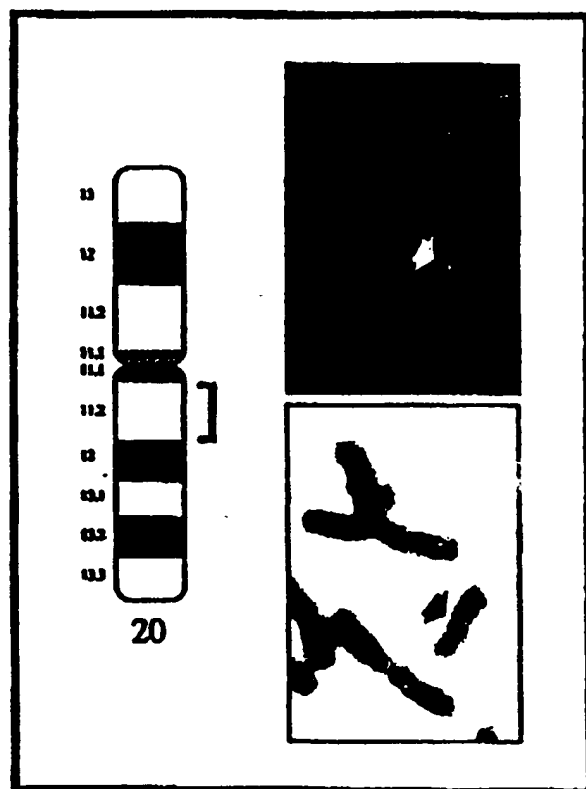


FIGURE 4







# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/US 96/07747

<b>A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER</b> IPC 6 C12N15/12 C07K14/435 G01N33/574 C12Q1/68		
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
<b>B. FIELDS SEARCHED</b> Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 6 C12N C07K G01N C12Q		
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched		
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)		
<b>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</b>		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EMBL DATABASE, Accession number T03463 Sequence reference HST03463 from human cDNA clone IB327; 24 August 1993 Compare nucleotides 0-415 with nucleotides XP002012454 2539-2125 of SEQ. ID. NO. 1 ---	3,4
X	EMBL DATABASE, Accession number D12076 Sequence reference HS000S163 from human HepG2 clone S163; 18 November 1992 Compare nucleotides 0-610 with nucleotides XP002012455 1925 to 2535 of SEQ.ID.NO.1 --- <div style="text-align: center;">-/--</div>	3,4
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.</span> <span><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patent family members are listed in annex.</span> </div>		
<div style="display: flex;"> <div style="flex: 1;"> <p>* Special categories of cited documents:</p> <p>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</p> <p>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p> </div> <div style="flex: 1;"> <p>"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</p> <p>"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone</p> <p>"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.</p> <p>"&amp;" document member of the same patent family</p> </div> </div>		
Date of the actual completion of the international search  <div style="text-align: center;">3 September 1996</div>		Date of mailing of the international search report  <div style="text-align: center;">16. 09. 96</div>
Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016		Authorized officer  <div style="text-align: center;">Cupido, M</div>

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/US 96/07747

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	<p>DATABASE SWISSPROT, Accession number S50474  Sequence reference S50428 of S.cerevisiae  cosmid 9537, identical to Yer016W;28-05-93  XP002012456  Compare amino acids 33-38 with amino acids  41-46 of SEQ. ID. NO.2.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">---</p>	8
P,X	<p>CANCER RESEARCH,  vol. 55, 15 July 1995, MD US,  pages 2972-2977, XP002012453  L-K SU ET AL.: "APC binds to the novel  protein EB1"  see the whole document</p> <p style="text-align: center;">---</p>	1-35
A	<p>WO,A,94 21814 (THE JOHN HOPKINS  UNIVERSITY) 29 September 1994  see the whole document</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p>	1-35

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US 96/ 07747

## Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☒ Claims Nos.: 11  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:  
Remark: Although claim 11 may be directed to a diagnostic method practised on the human/animal body the search has been carried out and based on the alleged effects of the composition.
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

## Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

### Information on patient family members

**PCT/US 96/07747**

Form PCT/ISA/210 (patent family annex) (July 1992)